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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/684,230	10/06/2000	Jeffrey W. Stone	RA-0336	3176

7590

04/24/2002

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EXAMINER
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JENKINS, DANIEL J

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1742

DATE MAILED: 04/24/2002

4

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

AS-4

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/684,230

Applicant(s)

STONE, JEFFREY W.

Examiner

Daniel J. Jenkins

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1742

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 March 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-34 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 2. 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

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1. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

2. Claims 1-34 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The limitations of the term "iron powder" is unclear. It appears that the term includes alloys including ferrotungsten, since the Specification refers to the low ductility metal powder having a density greater than lead (see page 4, lines 6-12). The term is stated in the Specification to include "iron alloys" (see claim 19). This description supports said term including iron alloys containing high density material such as tungsten. The Examiner will interpret said term to include high density iron alloys including ferrotungsten.

3. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

4. Claims 1, 7, 8, 13, 14, 19-29 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Mravic et al. '187 (Mravic et al.).

Mravic et al. discloses a lead free projectile comprising;

a high density metal powder selected from a first group comprising ferrotungsten; and

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a low density metal powder selected from a second group comprising tin, zinc and alloys of tin and zinc.

Mravic et al. further discloses wherein said projectile is formed by a sintering process.

5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

6. Claims 2-6, 10-12, 15-18 and 30-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Mravic et al. '187 (Mravic et al.).

Mravic et al. disclose the invention substantially as claimed (see paragraph 4 above).

However, Mravic et al. broadly discloses selection of powder size and high/low % ratios that approximate that of Applicant, the determination of specific ranges being determined by one of ordinary skill in the art based on the desired frangibility of the projectile, given that powder size and ratios are disclosed as variables within the invention.

7. Claims 9 and 33 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Lowden in view of Mravic et al. '187 (Mravic et al.).

Lowden discloses the invention substantially as claimed. Lowden discloses a frangible projectile formed by cold compacting a high density and a low density powder metals.

Lowden discloses wherein the low density powder metals are selected from a group comprising tin and zinc and alloys thereof.

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However, Lowden does not disclose wherein the high density material is selected from a group comprising ferrotungsten, but does disclose tungsten.

Mravic et al. teach that ferrotungsten and tungsten are known equivalents as a high density constituent in a lead free projectile, and the substitution of such would be within ordinary skill in the manipulation of the desired density of the final projectile.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Daniel J. Jenkins whose telephone number is 703-306-4157. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH 6:30AM-5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Roy King can be reached on 703-308-1146. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9593 for regular communications and 703-305-7719 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-0661.



Daniel J. Jenkins  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 1742

dj  
March 25, 2002